

## FURTHER NOTES ON CEREMONIAL STONES, AUSTRALIA

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(*Read October 1, 1909.*)

During the latter part of 1908 I submitted an article on the above subject, accompanied by diagrammatic drawings showing front and side views of several specimens.<sup>1</sup> Since that time I have obtained a photograph of a number of similar stones in the possession of Mr. A. G. Johnston, of Murtie Station, Darling River, New South Wales. I have thought that the publication of this photograph will add to the value of what has already been written and encourage further investigation in this important subject.

In explanation of the photograph, Fig. 1, the specimens are contained in a cabinet in which there are three shelves. I have ruled lines across the face of the photograph corresponding to the bases of these shelves, the picture being thus divided into three partitions, marked *A*, *B* and *C*, for the purpose of explaining its contents.

Partition *A*, or the lower shelf, contains thirty-two ceremonial stones, of various lengths and proportions, which the reader will readily recognize from a perusal of the drawings in my former article on the subject. The four large flat, ovate stones at the back of the shelf, are lower millstones, used for grinding grass seed. There are also three upper millstones, which are much smaller, used for pounding and grinding the seed upon the larger lower stone. The upper millstones, as well as four stone hatchets, are not distinguishable without the aid of numerals. I have not thought it advisable to number any of the objects, lest the picture should be overcrowded and defaced. In the middle of the shelf, near the top, is a boomerang.

Partition *B*, or the middle shelf, has fourteen more ceremonial stones, four lower millstones, one upper millstone, four stone

<sup>1</sup> PROC. AMER. PHIL. SOC., Vol. XLVIII., p. 313.

hatchets, a boomerang, a nulla-nulla, and a kopai ball like those illustrated in my paper on "Burial Customs."

Partition C, or the uppermost shelf, contains four more ceremonial stones, two lower millstones, four stone hatchets, and a black-

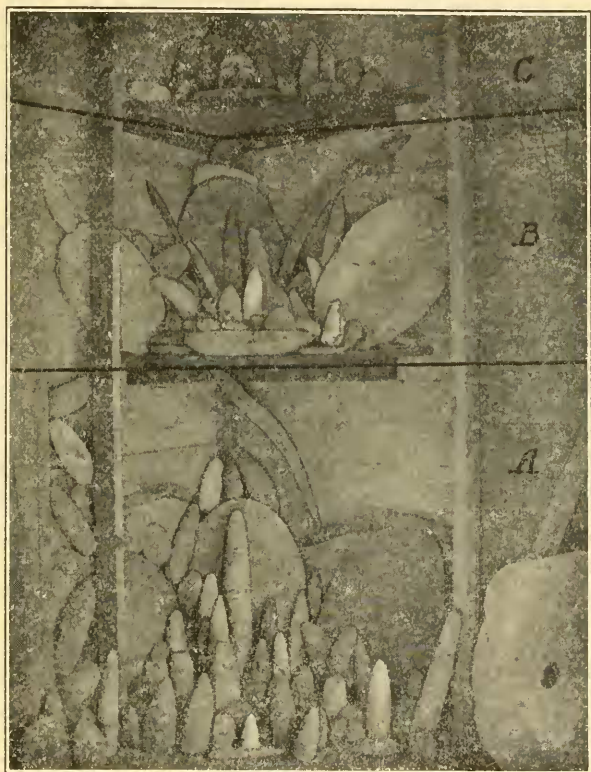


FIG. 1. Ceremonial stones, nardoo stones, boomerangs and nullas.

fellow's skull. It appears therefore, that the cabinet, with its three shelves, contains a total of fifty ceremonial stones, without counting the other specimens. Owing to the great number of articles comprised in Fig. 1, everything appears proportionately small. To remedy this, several representative specimens of ceremonial stones have been taken out of the cabinet and a separate picture, Fig. 2, photographed on a larger scale. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are reddish

tinted sandstone, all of them being more or less profusely ornamented with incisions. Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 9 are gray sandstone.

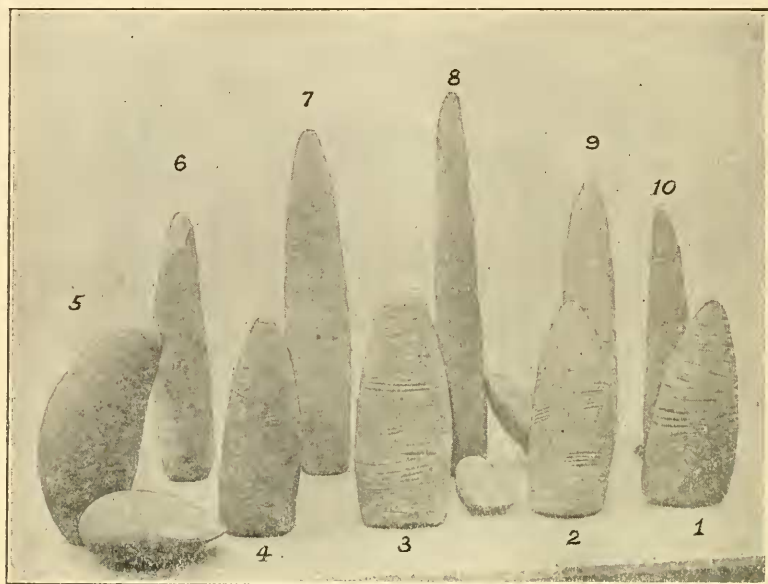


FIG. 2. Ceremonial stones. Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 are of red sandstone, all much marked. Nos. 8 and 10 are of slate. No. 8, is 19 inches long. The rest are of gray sandstone.

Nos. 8 and 10 are clay slate—the former being nineteen inches long. The three small articles on the floor of the picture are stone hatchets, and are without numbers.

The two plates now submitted, if studied in connection with the comprehensive diagrammatic drawings given in my former article, will enable the reader to form a very clear conception of what these remarkable stones look like.